Beauty Patch

**Language level:** Intermediate (B1) – Upper Intermediate (B2)

**Learner type:** Teens and adults

**Time:** 90 minutes

**Activity:** Speaking about a perfect partner using abstract nouns, watching a short film, and reading

**Topic:** Beauty

**Language:** Abstract nouns

**Materials:** Short film and YouTube comments worksheet
Overview

This EFL lesson is designed around a short film commissioned by Dove and the theme of beauty. Students practise using abstract nouns and describe their perfect partner, watch a short film which shows an interesting experiment, read and discuss comments on the short film.

Step 1

Dictate the following adjectives:

brave  compassionate  confident
enthusiastic  generous  honest
hopeful  humorous  independent
intelligent  kind  loyal
optimistic  patient  strong
sympathetic  tolerant  trustworthy

Step 2

Elicit or explain the meaning of the words.

Step 3

Write abstract noun on the board. Ask the students if they know the abstract noun of honest. Elicit or explain that it is honesty. Put them in pairs and ask them to come up with the abstract nouns for the other adjectives.
Step 4

Check your students’ answers.

brave – bravery
compassionate – compassion
confident – confidence
enthusiastic – enthusiasm
generous – generosity
honest – honesty
hopeful – hope
humorous – humour
independent – independence
intelligent – intelligence
kind – kindness
loyal – loyalty
optimistic – optimism
patient – patience
strong – strength
sympathetic – sympathy
tolerant – tolerance
trustworthy – trust

Step 5

Ask your students to think about the type of qualities they would like a romantic partner to have. Ask them to the ten abstract nouns which
they would like their perfect partner to have and then to put them into order of importance.

Step 6
Put your students into small groups and ask them to compare their lists, and talk about the qualities they look for in a partner.

Step 7
Hold a plenary session based on the following question:
What qualities would your perfect partner have?

Step 8
Write beautiful on the board. Elicit or explain that its abstract noun is beauty.

Step 9
Ask your students to define beauty. Try to get them to agree on a definition.

Step 10
Put the students into pairs and ask them to discuss the following question:
What makes a person beautiful?
Step 11

Tell your students they are going to watch a short film connected to beauty. As they watch their task is to say what the film is about. Show the film and pause at 02:46.

Link:  https://vimeo.com/91525327

Step 12

Elicit that the film is about an experiment in which various women wear a patch which is designed to make them feel more beautiful and during the experiment the women video how they are feeling. Ask your students what they think of the experiment.

Step 13

Tell the students they are going to watch the first part of the film again, as they watch they should listen for how the women describe how they feel. Show the film again, pause at 02:46.

Step 14

Elicit some of the words and expressions the women use. For example, more sociable, comfortable, a life-altering experience.

Step 15

Ask the students the following questions:

What do you think is in the patch?
Would you buy the patch?

**Step 16**

Tell the students they are going to watch the rest of the film. As they watch their task is to say what the patch contains. Show the film until 03:52.

**Step 17**

Get your students’ reaction. Ask them if they expected the ending.

**Step 18**

Ask the students to discuss the caption which reads:

“Beauty is a state of mind.”

**Step 19**

Tell the students that the film was commissioned by Dove. Ask them what they know about Dove, their products and publicity campaigns.

**Step 20**

Ask your students if they ever read comments on YouTube. Ask them what types of comments people may have written about the film they’ve just watched. Give them the worksheet with the comments on the film. Tell them their task is to read the comments and then say which comments are most
positive, negative or balanced. Help with any vocabulary as necessary.

Step 21

Put the students into small groups and ask them to discuss each comment.

Homework

Ask your students to imagine that they are one of the women featured in the film. They should write a composition describing their emotions throughout the experiment and how they felt when they found out the patch contained nothing.

I hope you enjoy the lesson.

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